Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 – Expedited Procedure Serial No.: 10/796,955

Examiner: Jerry M. Blevins

<u>Remarks</u>

Claims 1-3, 5, 16, 19-21, and 34-37 remain in this application. Claim 4, 6-15, 17-18, 22-33, and 38 are canceled. Claims 1 and 34 have been amended by this action.

In The Claims:

The Office action has rejected claim 34 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Goossen (US 6,271,943); claims 1-3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goossen in view of Buchter; claim 5 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goossen in view of Buchter and further in view of Bartur; claims 7-9 and 13 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartur in view of Buchter and Goossen; claims 10-11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartur in view of Buchter and Goossen and further in view of Eden; claim 14 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartur in view of Buchter and Goossen and further in view of AAPA and Goossen; claims 35-36 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goossen and further in view of Bartur and Buchter.

Further, the Examiner has acknowledged that Claims 16, and 19-21 are allowed and that Claims 6, and 37-38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Firstly, Applicant has canceled Claims 7-15 and 22-27 and thus the rejection of those claims are moot. To further facilitate immediate allowance of claims in the present application, though Applicant has viable arguments against the above-noted standing rejections, Applicant has amended all other rejected independents claims (Claims 1 and 34) to include subject matter which the Examiner acknowledged as allowable. More specifically, subject matter of Claim 6 has been included in Claim 1; and subject matter of Claim 38 has been included in Claim 34. For at least this reason, Applicant believes all pending claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, Applicant believes the foregoing amendment places the Application in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection/objection of the claims be withdrawn and full allowance granted. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, please contact Bobby Slaton at (972) 519-2295.

Respectfully submitted,

ALCATEL

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Dated: June 2, 2006

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